

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 06736 251609Z

70

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 251559Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9648

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 06736

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE ALSO PASS USNMR SHAPE AND USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, SP

SUBJECT: SPAIN AND NATO

REF: STATE 91998

1. BECAUSE OF PRESSURE OF PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS,
FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER WAS UNABLE TO KEEP APPOINTMENT
WITH AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND APRIL 23 AT WHICH AMBASSADOR
PLANNED TO ACT ON INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL.

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PAGE 02 BONN 06736 251609Z

EMBASSY MADE PRESENTATION TO FOREIGN OFFICE AT APPRO-

PRIATE LEVEL APRIL 24.

2. INITIAL FOREIGN OFFICE REACTION WAS IN THE FIRST PLACE TO REITERATE AND STRESS GERMAN SUPPORT FOR CLOSER ASSOCIATION OF SPAIN WITH NATO, AND FOR US EFFORTS TO THIS END. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S RECENT VISIT TO MADRID HAD OFFERED A USEFUL OCCASION TO EXPLORE SPANISH VIEWS. SINCE THEN THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAD TAKEN SOUNDINGS THROUGH GERMAN EMBASSIES ABROAD ON THE ATTITUDES OF OTHER NATO COUNTRIES. THE RESULTS WERE NEGATIVE IN SOME CASES, AS EXPECTED (OUR CONTACTS CITED THE HAGUE, OSLO AND LONDON). THE GERMANS FELT, AS BEFORE, THAT ANY MOVES TO BRING SPAIN CLOSER TO NATO MUST BE MOST CAREFULLY PREPARED AND WEIGHED.

3. THE FOREIGN OFFICE STRESSED FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S HIGH DEGREE OF PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE ISSUE. OUR CONTACTS TOLD US THAT, BEFORE RESPONDING IN DETAIL TO OUR PRESENTATION, THEY WOULD NEED HIGH LEVEL MINISTRY GUIDANCE. ON VARIOUS POINTS, THE FOREIGN OFFICE WOULD WISH TO CONSULT AND CLEAR POSITIONS WITH THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. THE GERMANS SAID THEY WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, HOPEFULLY NEXT WEEK, TO ARRANGE FOR A DISCUSSION IN DEPTH OF THE IDEAS CONTAINED IN OUR PRESENTATION.
HILLENBRAND

SECRET

NNN

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